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ABSTRACT

Placement, unit cost, retention and attraction data for all programs at Moraine Valley Community College for which information was available were used to determine which programs needed in-depth evaluation. Four of the 24 associate degree programs (secretarial science, radiologic technology, power machine technology, and industrial supervision) and one of the nine certificate programs (general office services) had placed all of their graduates in jobs related to their training. The average unit cost since program inception ranged from \$0 for finance and credit to \$1,665 for nursing; the previous year's range was \$0-2,949. The percentage change in retention rates from 1971-75 to 1976 ranged from an increase of 111% for transportation to a decrease of 120% for the respiratory therapy technology-certificate program. The percentage change in attraction rates for the same period ranged from a loss of 18% for medical laboratory technology to a gain of 343% for exceptional education. When the data were applied to the Program Review Model, leisure services, respiratory therapy, social worker aide, power machine technology, industrial engineering, and general office services appeared most in need of in-depth evaluations. Data tables are included. (Author/TR)

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Research Note

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THE 1977 RANKINGS  
OF  
PROGRAMS FOR AN IN-DEPTH EVALUATION

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March 1977

# Research Note

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Date: March 1977

Re: The 1977 Rankings of Programs for an In-Depth Evaluation

The ranked ordered evaluative criteria (placement, cost, retention, and attraction) were input into the Program Review Model for all programs where data was available. New programs or programs where information was not available were eliminated from analysis. The programs eliminated include: Graphic Arts, Nondestructive Evaluation, Security and Loss Prevention and Therapeutic Recreation.

The percent of 1976 occupational graduates employed in positions for which they have been trained was calculated. Table 1 presents the information reflecting job placement of occupational graduates.

Four of the twenty-four associate degree programs (Secretarial Science, Radiologic Technology, Power Machine Technology and Industrial Supervision) and one of the nine certificate programs, General Office Services, have placed all their graduates in jobs for which they have been trained. With the exception of Industrial Supervision, these same programs had a 100% placement rate the previous academic year.

Table 2 presents the average unit cost of a program since its inception. The figures were derived by dividing the total cost of a program since its inception by the accumulated FTE.

The average unit cost of a program since its inception ranged from \$0 for Finance and Credit to \$1665 for Nursing. This range of average unit cost values is more narrow than the \$0 to \$2,949 range of the previous academic year.

The net percentage difference between the 1971-75 and 1976 retention rate is presented in Table 3. The retention ratio was computed by comparing the FTE for an academic year with the number of graduates two or four semesters later.

The percentage change in the retention rate ranged from an increase of 111% for Transportation to a decrease of 120% for Respiratory Therapy Technology-Certificate Program. This is in contrast to the 1974-75 fiscal year when all programs increased in retention.

Table 4 presents the net percentage change in the attraction rate between the 1971-75 and 1976 attraction rates for each program. The attraction rate was computed by comparing the average FTE over the preceding four years to the FTE of the present academic year.

Table 1

Percent of Students Placed on Jobs for Which They Were Trained by  
Program Area in 1976

Associate Degree Program	% Placed on Jobs for Which Trained	Certificate Program	% Placed on Jobs for Which Trained
*General Office Services	0%	General Office Services	100%
Accounting & Computing	56	Data Processing	0
Finance and Credit	0	Operating Room Tech.	64
Business Mid-Management	31	Medical Record Tech.	80
Fashion Merchandising	60	Respiratory Therapy Tech.	50
Marketing Mid-Management	50	Industrial Eng. Tech.	50
Secretarial Science	100	*Power Machine Tech.	0
Transportation	71	Teacher/Library Assistant	76
Data Processing	56	*Fire Science	0
Medical Laboratory Tech.	72		
Radiologic Tech.	100		
Nursing	72		
Respiratory Therapy Tech.	73		
Industrial Eng. Tech.	13		
Design Drafting	25		
Power Machine Tech.	100		
Electronics Tech.	80		
Industrial Supervision	100		
Exceptional Education	0		
Law Enforcement	75		
Leisure Services	0		
Social Worker Aide	0		
Fire Science	59		
Child Care	63		

\*Programs with no completions

Table 2

The Average Unit Cost in Dollars of a Program  
for the Years 1972-76\*

Associate Degree Program	Average Unit Cost in \$	Intro. Date	Certificate Program	Average Unit Cost in \$	Intro. Date
General Office Services	\$468	1975	General Office Services	\$468	1971
Accounting & Computing	338	1971	Data Processing	543	1969
Finance and Credit	0	1970	Operating Room Tech.	1477	1969
Business Mid-Mgt.	54	1969	Medical Record Tech.	1034	1969
Fashion Merchandising	123	1972	Respiratory Ther. Tech.	664	1969
Marketing Mid-Mgt.	594	1969	Industrial Eng. Tech.	886	1973
Secretarial Science	468	1969	Power Machine Tech.	1395	1972
Transportation	362	1969	Teacher/Library Asst.	325	1969
Data Processing	543	1969	Fire Science	235	1971
Medical Laboratory Tech.	1006	1969			
Radiologic Tech.	537	1969			
Nursing	1665	1971			
Respiratory Therapy Tech.	664	1971			
Industrial Eng. Tech.	886	1972			
Design Drafting	723	1969			
Power Machine Tech.	1395	1972			
Electronics Tech.	875	1972			
Industrial Supervision	437	1969			
Exceptional Education	229	1973			
Law Enforcement	192	1969			
Leisure Services	1092	1969			
Social Worker Aide	680	1972			
Fire Science	235	1969			
Child Care	148	1973			

\* Cost information available only from 1972-76.

Table 3

The Change in Program Retention Rates for 1971-75 vs 1976  
by Program Area

Associate Degree Program	% Change in Retention	Certificate Program	% Change in Retention
General Office Services	0%	General Office Services	-7%
Accounting & Computing	13	Data Processing	-13
Finance and Credit	-61	Operating Room Tech.	27
Business Mid-Management	-2	Medical Record Tech.	-38
Fashion Merchandising	-66	Respiratory Therapy Tech.	-120
Marketing Mid-Management	53	Industrial Eng. Tech.	0
Secretarial Science	-4	Power Machine Tech.	0
Transportation	111	Teacher/Library Asst.	45
Data Processing	-27	Fire Science	5
Medical Laboratory Tech.	4		
Radiologic Tech.	-44		
Nursing	80		
Respiratory Therapy Tech.	-44		
Industrial Eng. Tech.	0		
Design Drafting	-6		
Power Machine Tech.	-81		
Electronics Tech.	-65		
Industrial Supervision	-29		
Exceptional Education	-66		
Law Enforcement	-4		
Leisure Services	-35		
Social Worker Aide	-71		
Fire Science	33		
Child Care	-68		

Table 4

The Change in Program Attraction Rates for 1971-75 vs 1976  
by Program Area

Associate Degree Program	% Change in Attraction	Certificate Program	% Change in Attraction
General Office Services	0%	General Office Services	17%
Accounting & Computing	163	Data Processing	72
Finance and Credit	162	Operating Room Tech.	53
Business Mid-Mgt.	72	Medical Record Tech.	35
Fashion Merchandising	70	Respiratory Therapy Tech.	0
Marketing Mid-Mgt.	18	Industrial Eng. Tech.	0
Secretarial Science	9	Power Machine Tech.	33
Transportation	108	Teacher/Library Asst:	26
Data Processing	20	Fire Science	136
Medical Laboratory Tech.	-18		
Radiologic Tech.	12		
Nursing	32		
Respiratory Therapy Tech.	44		
Industrial Eng. Tech.	0		
Design Drafting	50		
Power Machine Tech.	305		
Electronics Tech.	103		
Industrial Supervision	71		
Exceptional Education	313		
Law Enforcement	109		
Leisure Services	-2		
Social Worker Aide	28		
Fire Science	180		
Child Care	96		

The percent change in the attraction rate for the twenty-four associate degree programs and the nine certificate programs ranged from a loss of 18% for the Medical Laboratory Technician Program to a gain of 313% for the Exceptional Education Program.

The raw data from Tables 1-4 was input into the Program Review Model. The evaluative criteria in order of importance were: placement, unit cost, retention and attraction. T-values were computed for the raw data in each table and for the four criteria. The corresponding indices for each program were computed and the programs were then rank ordered by need for evaluation, i.e., the program with the highest index value represents the program least in need of evaluation as measured by a combination of placement, unit cost, retention and attraction data.

Table 5 presents the rank ordering of programs according to their need for evaluation.

According to the four criteria used, the programs in most need of an in-depth evaluation are: Leisure Services, Respiratory Therapy-C, Social Worker Aide, Power Machine Technology-C, Industrial Engineering Technology, General Office Services, and Industrial Engineering Technology-C.

The programs in least need of evaluation are: Secretarial Science, Industrial Supervision, Law Enforcement, Accounting and Computing, Teacher/Library Assistant, Fire Science and Transportation.

MKB/ds

Table 5

Rank of Programs Offered by MVCC According to Need for Evaluation  
as Measured by Placement, Unit Cost, Retention and Attraction

Rank	Index Number*	Program
1	7973	Leisure Services
2	8506	Respiratory Therapy - C
3	8574	Social Worker Aide
4	8912	Power Machine Technology - C
5	9272	Industrial Engineering Technology
6	9386	General Office Services
7	9458	Industrial Engineering Technology - C
8	9573	Data Processing - C
9	9612	Medical Laboratory Technology
10	9675	Design Drafting
11	9878	Radiologic Technology
12	9904	Data Processing Systems
13	10061	Medical Records Technology
14	10086	Operating Room Technology
15	10222	Nursing
16	10260	Respiratory Therapy
17	10292	Exceptional Education
18	10293	Power Machine Technology
19	10409	Electronics Technology
20	10432	Marketing Mid-Management
21	10627	Fashion Merchandising
22	10643	Child Care
23	10691	Finance and Credit
24	10709	Fire Science - C
25	10973	General Office Services - C
26	11005	Business Mid-Management
27	11028	Secretarial Science
28	11323	Industrial Supervision
29	11348	Law Enforcement
30	11354	Accounting and Computing
31	11530	Teacher/Library Assistant
32	11758	Fire Science
33	12026	Transportation

\* The lower the index value the greater the need for an in-depth evaluation.

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